



OFFICE OF THE
BRIGADE COMMANDER

UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

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MEMORANDUM FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE USUHS BRIGADE

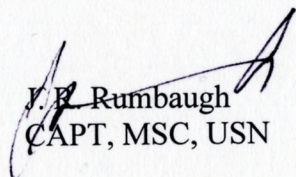
SUBJECT: Brigade Commander's Policy Statement on Alcohol Abuse

Responsible use of alcohol is completely acceptable. Many service personnel choose to drink without negative impact on their lives or on the mission of the Department of Defense. Tragically, there are those who do abuse alcohol. It undermines health, safety, discipline, and loyalty. Alcohol is a drug that affects the functions of the mind as well as the body, and too often the result is serious injury or death. It distorts the reasoning and judgment of even the most intelligent people and remains a central theme in the majority of legal incidents throughout the Armed Forces. Abuse of alcohol is a severe detriment to operational readiness in terms of performance, reliability, judgment, and time lost.

Alcohol-related incidents are a natural result of the abuse of alcohol and will not be tolerated. Those convicted of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) normally receive severe punishments. Convictions for such alcohol-related offenses are also not career-enhancing events. Other alcohol-related incidents include any conduct or behavior, caused by ingestion of alcohol, which results in discreditable involvement with civil and/or military authorities. Events requiring medical care or involving a suspicious public or domestic disturbance will be evaluated to determine if alcohol was a contributing factor, and if so, are considered alcohol-related incidents. The consumption of alcohol by personnel under the legal age of 21 will not be tolerated. It is never acceptable for personnel to be under the influence of alcohol while at work, nor is it appropriate to drink alcohol at work (both fixed facilities and in the field) unless it is approved by appropriate Command authority. If in doubt – don't.

The Navy Drug and Alcohol Abuse (DAPA) Program, the Air Force Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) Program, and the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) are all designed to promote readiness and health and wellness through the prevention and treatment of substance abuse; to minimize the negative consequences of substance abuse to individual, family, and organization; to provide comprehensive education and treatment. For additional information on these programs, please contact HM1 Samuel McFall, Brigade DAPA Coordinator at (301) 295-3336.

We must be proactive in the prevention and elimination of alcohol-related incidents. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy, talk to your immediate supervisor, the Senior Enlisted Leader, or the Brigade Commander.


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